

52. (New) The method of claim 44. (New), wherein the growth factor formulation administered in step e.) and subsequent steps is the same as the growth factor formulation administered initially.

53. (New) The method of claim 44. (New), wherein the growth factor formulation administered in step e.) and subsequent steps is different from the growth factor formulation administered initially.

### REMARKS


#### Status of the Claims

The instant application was filed on April 6, 2001, with claims 1 - 15. Claims 16 - 53 have been added, and original claims 1 - 15 have been cancelled by the above amendment. Support for new claims 16 - 53 may be found in the claims as filed and throughout the specification, particularly in the examples. Thus, no new matter is added by amendment.

#### Conclusion

Applicant hereby respectfully requests consideration and examination of the currently pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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